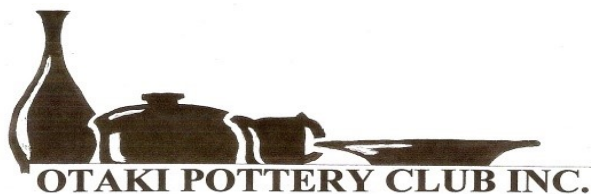


Otaki Potters

March/April 2020



47 Te Roto Road
OTAKI 5512
Ph. Secretary 06 364 2191
www.otakipotteryclub.org

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings!

I hope this finds you safe and well and at home! It's amazing just how quickly things can change. This newsletter is to bring you up to date.

THE ROOMS: Work was progressing really well until Level 4 came into play and the rooms were closed for four weeks with no members allowed access, except Brent and myself.

We were on schedule to have both classrooms operational by May 1st. Adult classes and children's workshops will now be delayed. The GOOD NEWS is that the spaces for club members are up and running. The Shimpo kiln is operational. Water is on in the glaze room and club space.

The last working bee meant the glaze room and kiln room walls were painted. Thanks to Lynne Corkin who has managed the majority of painting in the new rooms. Brent managed to get the doors to the clay storage installed along with the sliding door to the kiln room before shutdown occurred. His final job was to get shelving up in the kiln room. We are awaiting the installation of the new power box so that all hot points are working and all kilns are going.

When the rooms reopen, Kaye Stead will be managing the teaching spaces and has provided Brent with a list of requests to complete the project. If you plan to use the rooms at least once every 10 days, once the rooms reopen, and would like a storage place for clay and/or equipment, please email Kaye.

Thank you to Brent and those members who keep on keeping on to get the project finished. The committee will organize some orientation sessions for members to familiarize them with the new layout, where to find things etc. No date has been set for the official opening but if you know of people that you think should be invited please email Caitlin.

THE GALLERY: This part of the project was awaiting a sponsor. The GOOD NEWS is the Penny and Hu Eames have offered to sponsor the gallery and on your behalf I thank them for their generous gift. This means that this part of the project can proceed when lockdown is lifted.

If anyone has any clean storage to accommodate some plinths while we get things sorted please let me know.



The closing ceremony at the previous club rooms at Otaki College on Thursday 27 April. Grant McNab and Beryl along with Hamish from the college and the Rev Baker.



"Never look a gift horse in the mouth!"

THE CARPARK: Our designated carpark is on the south side of the building. Stephanie Tidman generously paid to have the area graveled. What a difference! No fear of getting bogged down this winter! Thanks Stephanie and also to Joe Bradbury who donated his time and machinery to dig out the dirt.

ACCESS: Not that it matters just at the moment but once life is back to normal, you will still be able to get into the building by using the key that accessed the rooms at the College last year. The committee are investigating electronic entering and monitoring where you will be able to use an access code. The rooms remain closed until further notice.

BUILDING: At the AGM it was agreed that the club proceed with the purchase of the building from the Otaki Maori Racing Club and negotiate a 35-year lease on the land. Thank you to Caitlin Taylor and Ian Cassels for generously putting up an interest free loan to facilitate this. I think we all agreed that the offer was far too good to turn down and thank the OMRC for giving us the opportunity. Caitlin has put a huge amount of time into getting this processed by March 31st. We also thank Stephanie and Susie Mills, Lawyer, for their advice and guidance.

GAS KILNS: The club had the opportunity to purchase a fully equipped 25 cubic foot FE downdraught gas kiln in pristine condition. The committee agreed that this was a good investment for the long-term future of the club

"It's too late to close the stable door after the horse has bolted."



with UV coloured with stains. We have purchased a piece of Alan's work.

The committee agreed to keep and install Maureen's kiln as it is smaller and can do short runs. Gas firing (at various temperatures) gives our club a point of difference and we are in the fortunate position of having several members skilled in the art of gas firing.

NEW MEMBERS: Welcome to Tara Morton, Grace Emmanuel, Simon Black, Tracey Keith, Lesley Bolbot, Sue O'Rourke (returning member), Angela Francis and Corey Pugh who have joined the club this year. With much more space we have removed the cap on membership so it's good to see new members joining us.

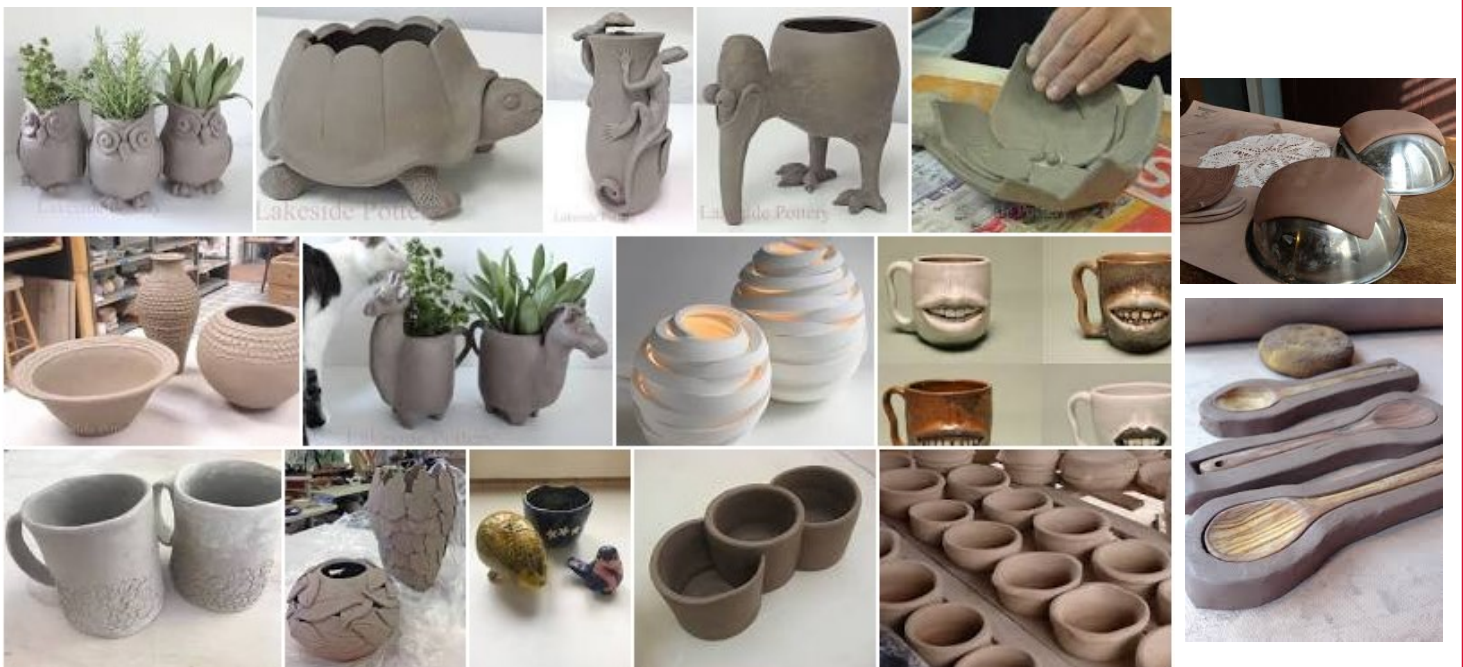
ADULT CLASSES, CHILDREN'S CLASSES, WORKSHOPS AND SHORT COURSES: Recently Margaret and I met with people who are interested in tutoring. There was a good turnout and a great flow of ideas and suggestions, so thank you to all those who turned up.

The current plan is to have: • Intermediate Wheel on Monday nights • Beginner's wheel on Tuesday nights and Wednesday mornings • Hand building on Wednesday and Thursday nights and Friday mornings.



Priestess vases made by Stacey Young from the new black clay

and agreed to purchase. Alan Hunter and I headed off with van and trailer to meet Alan Herbert in Rongotea (very handy to home!). Alan has been potting for several years and specializes in hand built and thrown agate ware fired to 1160 degC. He mixes terracotta and Nelson UV white clay along



Request from Sue Legat
legat@actrix.co.nz

I enjoyed visiting the festival of pots way back when times were "normal"!

That day I enquired of someone if one of your members produced pottery numbers for attaching to letterboxes. I have seen a number of these in my walks around Waikanae and as I have some very tatty and crooked numbers on my box I would be interested in acquiring new ones. The numbers I require are 1 and 2 - making up 12.

I realise things are all quite crazy at present, and there is no rush, but if one of your members could be interested in talking to me I'd be glad to hear. Thanks!

Pictures from Stephanie's workshop -



Management Committee

Office Bearers

Patron

President Rod Graham
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Other Contributors

Club Library & Rooms: Kaye Stead

Minute Secretary and Newsletter: Diana Litton

Cleaning Bees: (vacant)

Clay: Rod Graham and David Timperley

Glazes: Murray Hopping and Helen Walch

Property maintenance: Brent Craig and Russell Kitto

Equipment maintenance: David Simmonds.

KIWI BANK AND CHEQUES

A REMINDER

Hi members

We bank with Kiwi Bank. They are fazing out cheques altogether.

As of last September they stopped issuing cheques to their account holders and on February 28 they stopped accepting cheques in any bankings.

Member have **4 choices** for paying their dues to the club:

1. Internet banking
2. Telephone banking
3. Direct banking in cash into a Kiwi Bank.
4. Cash.

In all cases we will still need a payment slip.

With **methods 1-3** we will need details on your bank payment as clearly as room allows. Eg: Bill Smith - Clay; Bill Smith - Kiln; Bill Smith - Subs; Bill Smith - Clay \$25, + Subs \$138.

Method 4 will remain as in the past.

Supplies of deposit slips are available at the new premises which give the bank account numbers but if you require this information during the lockdown, please contact me directly.

A bit different for some of us I know, but I guess we must keep up with the times we live in.

Thank you,
Lynne Corkin
Assistant Treasurer.